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## News Release

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## **New Executive Council Takes Office for Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin**

(*Keshena, WI*) – The Tribal Legislature has elected the Executive Council for 2014, including Laurie Boivin as Chairwoman, Crystal Chapman-Chevalier as Vice Chair and Joan Delabreau as Secretary.

Boivin replaces Craig Corn who had served as Chairman for the last two years. Gary Besaw, a member of the Tribal Legislature, will continue as Chairman of the Menominee Kenosha Gaming Authority, according to Boivin.

"The Menominee Tribal Constitution provides for an annual reorganization of the Menominee Tribal Legislature," Corn said. "I am grateful for the faith shown in me by the legislature during my two terms as Chairman. I look forward to the next three years as a member of the legislature and I am fully committed in my support of Chairwoman Boivin."

"This is a pivotal time in our tribal history," Boivin said. "We have a very strong Tribal Legislature right now that is completely focused on addressing the needs of the Menominee people."

Besaw added that Boivin's "considerable business and gaming experience will be put to immediate use as she starts her term as the servant leader of our nation."

Previously, Boivin served from 2003 to 2012 as a legislator in various roles before completing the allowable term limit under the Menominee Tribal Constitution. She was Tribal Chairwoman in 2010; has been a member of both the Keshena and Kenosha Gaming Authorities and served as General Manager of the Menominee Casino in Keshena from 1989 – 1996. Currently, she is the Business Manager of the Menominee Tribal Clinic, a position from which she will take a leave of absence to serve her term as Tribal Chairwoman.

"When I served out my last term as a legislator I thought that would be it for me, "Boivin said. "But last summer when the Federal government approved our application for the Kenosha casino it was as if a spark was reignited in me. I have always believed in the Kenosha project as a means to raise our tribe to a greater level of self-sufficiency.

"Gary Besaw has my full support to continue as the Chairman of the Menominee Kenosha Gaming Authority," Boivin said. "He will be the point person for the tribe in our relationship with our

partners, Hard Rock International, and will lead our tribal efforts in working with Governor Walker's team as we seek final approval."

Boivin confirmed that on Thursday (February 13) she will give the State of the Tribes address in Madison before a joint session of the Wisconsin Legislature on behalf of the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council.

For more information, please contact the Menominee Tribal Chairman's Office at (715)799-5114.

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